

ORDINANCE NO. 3601

AN ORDINANCE to amend Title 12 (EDUCATION, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELFARE) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, by adding thereto a new Chapter 12 (ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY POLICY AND MANAGEMENT TEAM).

WHEREAS, the 1992 General Assembly enacted the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families which has been codified at section 2.1-746, et seq., of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families is intended to:

ensure that services and funding are consistent with the Commonwealth's policies of preserving families and providing appropriate services in the least restrictive environment, while protecting the welfare of children and maintaining the safety of the public;

identify and intervene early with young children and their families who are at risk of developing emotional or behavioral problems, or both, due to environmental, physical or psychological stress;

design and provide services that are responsive to the unique and diverse strengths and needs of troubled youths and families;

increase interagency collaboration and family involvement in service delivery and management;

encourage a public and private partnership in the delivery of services to troubled and at-risk youths and their families; and

provide communities flexibility in the use of funds and to authorize communities to make decisions and be accountable for providing services in concert with these purposes;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families establishes a state management team to better serve the needs of troubled and at-risk youths and their families by managing a cooperative interagency effort at the state level and by providing support to community efforts and to community policy and management teams on the local level;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families requires local governments in Virginia to establish community policy and management teams whose function will be to manage the cooperative effort on the local level to serve the needs of troubled and at-risk youths and their families, and to

utilize state and local resources that are designated for this purpose; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Title 12 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be and the same is hereby amended by adding thereto a new Chapter 12, to read as follows:

CHAPTER 12

ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY POLICY AND MANAGEMENT TEAM

Sec. 12-12-1 Creation.

There is hereby established the Alexandria Community Policy and Management Team which shall have the functions and duties set out in this chapter.

Sec. 12-12-2 Composition; appointment; terms and compensation of members; filling vacancies.

The community policy and management team created by section 12-12-1 shall consist of eight members. Six of the eight members shall be the following public officials or the designees of such officials: the executive director of the Alexandria community services board, the director of the Alexandria juvenile court services unit, the director of the city's department of health, the director of social services within the city's department of human services, the superintendent of schools, and the city's director of financial and informational services. The remaining two members of the team shall be a representative of a private organization or association of providers of children's or family services whose office is located within the city, and a parent representative who is not an employee of any public or private program which serves children and families. All members of the team shall be appointed by city council and shall serve for a term of two years; provided, that the private provider representative and the parent representative members shall be appointed by council, upon the recommendation of the public official members of the team. All members of the team shall file the financial disclosure form required by section 2-5-11 of this code, and their filing shall be in accordance with the provisions of said section. Any vacancy occurring in the provider representative or parent representative position on the team shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as original appointments to such positions are to be made. Members of the team shall serve without compensation, but may receive such reimbursement for expenses as city council may allow.

Sec. 12-12-3 Chairperson; meetings; confidentiality; rules of procedure.

(a) The community policy and management team shall elect a chairperson from among its members who shall serve for a period of one year. All members of the team shall be entitled to vote on all matters, and the decisions of the team shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present and voting. A quorum of five members present shall be required before the team may take official action. A member present but not voting shall be considered in counting a quorum.

(b) Proceedings held to consider the appropriate provision of services and funding for a particular child or family, or both, who have been referred to a family assessment and planning team and whose case is being assessed by this team or reviewed by the community policy and management team shall be confidential and not open to the public, unless the individuals who are the subjects of the proceeding request in writing that it be open. All information about specific children and families obtained by the community policy and management team or a family assessment and planning team in the discharge of its responsibilities pursuant to this chapter shall be confidential.

(c) The community policy and management team may establish its own operating and procedural rules, provided they are not contrary to the mandate or spirit of this chapter or sections 2.1-746 through 2.1-759 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, or other laws.

Sec. 12-12-4 Function and duties.

(a) The functions of the community policy and management team shall be to manage the cooperative effort in the city to serve the needs of troubled and at-risk youths and their families, and to maximize the use of state and city resources that are designated for this purpose.

(b) In order to carry out these functions, the team shall:

(1) Develop interagency policies, which shall be subject to city council review, and procedures to govern the provision of services to troubled and at-risk children and families in the city;

(2) Develop interagency fiscal policies governing the team's access to the state pool of funds that are available to provide services to troubled and at-risk youths and families, including immediate access to funds for emergency services and shelter care;

- (3) Coordinate long-range, city-wide planning which ensures the development of resources and services needed by troubled and at-risk children and families in the city;
- (4) Establish one or more family assessment and planning teams which shall perform the functions required by law;
- (5) Establish policies governing referrals to and reviews of children and families by family assessment and planning teams, including a process for reviewing any such team's recommendations and requests for funding;
- (6) Establish quality assurance and accountability procedures for program utilization and funds management;
- (7) Establish procedures for obtaining bids on the development of new services;
- (8) Manage funds allocated to the team from the state pool of funds and the state trust fund, both of which are provided for by state law, and from any other source;
- (9) Authorize and monitor the expenditure of funds by the family assessment and planning teams;
- (10) Submit to the state trust fund grant proposals approved by city council;
- (11) Enter into contracts for the provision or operation of services upon approval of the city manager;
- (12) Serve as the city's liaison to the state management team; and
- (13) Perform any other duties as required by law or imposed by city council.

Sec. 12-12-5 Legal services.

The city attorney shall provide legal services to the community policy and management team, except where there exists a dispute between the team and a department or agency represented by a member of the team or another department or agency of the city, in which case the team may, with the approval of the city manager, retain the services of a private attorney.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall become effective upon the date and at the time of its final passage.

PATRICIA S. TICER
Mayor

Final Passage: November 14, 1992.